

OBSERVER

Vol. 12 No. 9 May 15, 1969

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Observer
MAY 19 1994

EDITORIAL

Whether you care to admit it or not, the Second Annual Bard Drug Bust was as much the fault of the students as it was of sheriff Lawrence Quinlan.

Sheriff Quinlan is no doubt misinformed, misguided, operating barely within the law and furthering his political self interests. He is more interested in headlines than in justice. But this one petty politician is not solely to blame for the arrest of forty-four persons. If the rooms searched had been clean, he would have been left with only his three arrest warrants.

We've been raided twice now by Quinlan, but it seems the students haven't learned anything from the experiences.

It's about time the apathetic, uncaring individuals among us realize that Bard is in jeopardy.

If we ourselves don't do something to prevent further harassment by Quinlan, Bard may well go the way of Tim Leary, Former Dutchess County Resident. Quinlan was successful in driving Leary away, and would be very happy to see Bard close down.

Some people just haven't realized that they can't keep a stash in their rooms, that they can't welcome every passing stranger with open arms, that they can't pass joints in front of Stone Row, without being raided. As long as you're willing to be a sitting duck there will always be a Sheriff Quinlan willing to pick you off. He may be furthering the cause of 'law and order,' but he certainly isn't helping higher education. Those students among us who don't care if they are busted, and do everything possible to tempt its happening, are helping Quinlan's cause, not Bard's. They should be considered as dangerous as Quinlan himself, because to Bard they are just as deadly.

Repression



•• Amongst the laws which rule human societies there is one which seems to be more precise and clear than all others. If men are to remain civilized, or to become so, the art of associating together must grow and improve, in the same ratio in which the equality of conditions is increased. ••

Observer

an alternative newsmedia project

(914) 758-8755

The Observer is the official student publication of the Bard College Community. Publication is every Thursday during each semester, except holidays, vacations, etc. Letters to the editor must be received by the Monday preceding publication / Box 76 / Campus Mail. Interested persons who wish non-student subscriptions may write The Editor / Bard Observer / Amherst College / New York / 12504. The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of Bard College.

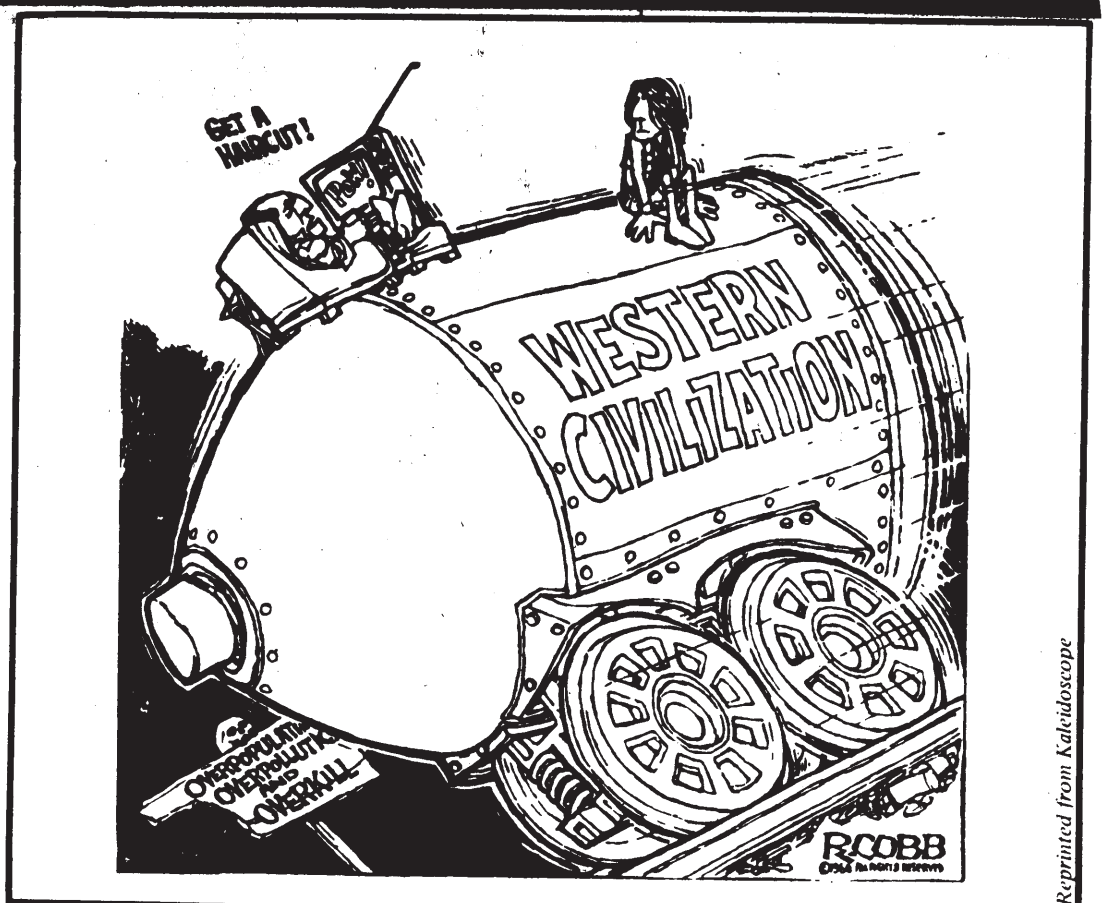
STAFF

george b. brewster / editor-in-chief
wayne robins / managing editor
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mike tolkin / features editor
lorenzo black / photo editor
luther douglas / circulation manager
john katzenbach / editorial columnist
susie solomon / muse
mike roddy / reporter

cover by larry merrill

'Being human is illegal and immoral in most places.

-Kenneth Boulding



Reprinted from Kaleidoscope

cat of 9 tails

Last Wednesday I decided that what I really needed was a vacation. I had come to expect noise at four thirty, but it was usually the friendly fellow from down the hall coming in after a pleasant night down the road, and roaming around the halls of Robbins. To my surprise there was a sharp knock at my door, and someone yelling 'Pigs, pigs..!' My first thought was that Hog farm was back. I opened the door, and was greeted with the sight of six feet four inches of grey suited state trooper. 'Uhhnn.' I said. He replied in kind... 'Uhhnn,' and flashing my famously innocent smile, in one fell swoop I was fully dressed, and my whole room was clean.

I sat in line for twenty minutes at breakfast, another indication that news does travel fast in the college community. Feeling my adrenalin pumping away in my ears, I casually stuffed myself with all kinds of french toast, donuts and glasses of orange juice. I don't suppose that I'd ever enjoyed eating as much before. Finishing, I figured that the best thing to do would be to go back to bed, and blithely disregarding my 10:30 class I slept until noon. As I expected it was still raining when I awoke. For a second I had this image that it would rain for forty days and nights, while Sheriff Quinlan built himself an ark.

To my surprise again I found a smiling reporter, all bedecked in cameras and sound equipment standing in back of Albee, talking with students. My first reaction was negative, but I approached the scene anyway. As was par for the whole day the reporter was taking pictures and interviewing kids who had been safely tucked in their beds, up on campus, during the whole affair. Lacking any discretion, I went up and played with the movie camera, and tried to get my picture taken, looking as wasted as possible. It all seemed kind of useless, though, and I

wandered into the coffee shop, to watch the haircuts come back from jail.

To add insult to injury, my father called that evening, just to 'See if you're all right.' I assured him that he had nothing to worry about, that I wasn't arrested, and that I would avoid everyone that was like they had bubonic plague.

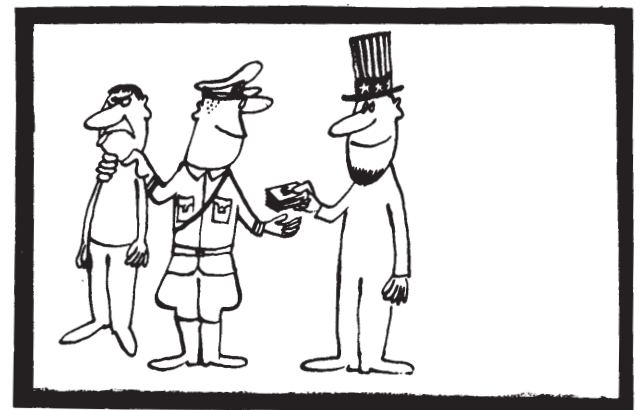
In fact the whole thing struck me as a classic example of a breakdown in communication. But what was even stranger about the bust was the way the whole thing brought the students together. It points out an interesting facet of the Bard environment. That is to say that it appears that whenever Bard is confronted with any outside force, the students tend to gravitate together and form a common front. This is true not only when the pigs show up, but also when the best albino blues guitarist in the world plays. Everyone sits and digs it. But what is important to note is the unified front projected. It shows the rest of the school in an extremely unusual light. It is as if people here are happy to walk around, safe and secure, shutting themselves off to the world. This would be fine, except for the fact that we are surrounded by the real world.

However the real world may be full of Sherrif Quinlans. Subsequently the college as a whole has to learn how to interact with the outside. We have to find a method or means of getting rid of Quinlans, and the best way to start is to begin to act in a unified manner. What has to be avoided is everyone simply sitting around waiting for the next bust. And it appears to me that this is exactly what the students as a whole want to do: forget as quickly as is possible, slip back into the old safe secure environment. It struck me that I've never seen an indignant Bard student, and it also strikes me that what we need are a few indignant

students. And this whole concept transcends the simple bust. As students we have a certain commitment to society, that is to learn. But as individuals we have commitments to ourselves. And what this means is not letting ourselves be continually stomped on. The you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours philosophy between the students of Bard and the administration is fine, but unfortunately it doesn't work when we are confronted by the denizens of the outside.

Trying to avoid scaring myself with my own shadow, I wandered meaninglessly back to my room. It was after my father called that I decided that I needed a vacation, and feeling inadequate I packed a few changes of clothes in a suitcase and left it under my bed.

j. k.



FEIFFER

BEAUTIFUL
GIRLS-



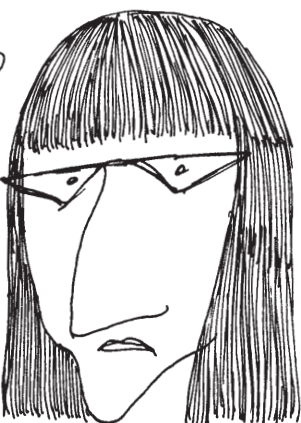
ARE
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HOMELY
MEN.



BUT
HANDSOME
MEN-



ARE
ATTRACTED
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GIRLS-



ONLY
IF
THEY'RE
RICH.



THE
PROBLEM
WITH
EQUALITY
BETWEEN
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IS YOU
HAVE
TO BE
EITHER
BEAUTI-
FUL OR
LOADED
BEFORE
IT
APPLIES.

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BUST



photos by larry merrill

Once again Bard has suffered a major drug raid by crusading Sheriff Lawrence Quinlan. This time he combined his efforts with the state police and a number of informants to search two dormitories, several off-campus houses, and arrest a total of 44 persons.

It began about 4:45 am on Thursday, 8 May. At least two dozen cars belonging to state troopers converged on Ward Manor. Simultaneously, Sachs Annex was ransacked by the Dutchess County Sheriff's men. The off-campus houses in Annandale were searched by authority of warrants signed by Lou Ring.

The final list of those arrested is as follows. Students: Mark Barnett; Douglas Barr; Phillip Barton; Alexander Bernstein; Lawrence Black; Bruce Blowitz; Terry Boylan; John Burroughs; Geoffrey Cahoon; Kenneth Carr; Richard Cohen; Brett Coty; Cole Duncan; Phil Dunkelbarger; Paul Elliott; Alfred Emsig; Victoria Ettlinger; Donald Fagen; Michael Freeman; Jerry Friedman; Mark Gorbulow; Whit Humphreys; Norman Hilton; David Hirsch; John Jensen; Kenny Johnson; Merry-Jane Kravitt; Joseph LeMonnier; Robin Mace; Steven Miller; Thomas Mount; Mark Ramon; Eliot Rowlands; Ramond Stato; Sara Vass; Francis Fleetwood. Nonstudents: Peter Aaron, Walter Becker; David Crabbs, Stephanie Crabbs; Erika Donneson; John Hall; Judith

Merrill; Dorothy White.

The college freed the thirty six students arrested by providing bail bonds covering a total of \$141,000 in bail. Legal fees came to \$1800. Bail bonds and legal services will be billed to students. Further legal services will be arranged by each student individually.

In a meeting Thursday evening for those arrested, lawyers were present to answer questions. They told everyone arrested to keep his experiences confidential, and asked ANYONE WHO WAS WITNESS TO ANY ARREST TO LEAVE HIS NAME WITH BRUCE LIEBERMAN. The Lawyers pointed out that an officer is supposed to announce his purpose and state that he has a warrant for 'X.' If the suspect requests to see the warrant, the officer must show it. But if the suspect does not request to see it at the time of the search, it does not vitiate the lawfulness of the arrest. Also, physical force can be used by an officer to enter a room if there is reason to believe that evidence could be destroyed between the time of the knock and the answer. President Reamer Kline addressed the students to assure them that the college would stand behind them, and was received with warm applause. He went on: 'Regardless of your stance on the morality or immorality of drugs, students here at Bard are at least guilty of indescribable carelessness.'



'There was no warning at all. They started pounding until they pushed the panel out of the door. I didn't know who they were.' That was how the Second Annual Bard Bust began for one student at Ward Manor. Another's door was broken in, splintering the frame.

One student was told to stay in bed. Another was told to get out of his bed so that it could be searched. A third student's person was searched. In some rooms the police asked whether the occupants possessed weapons. These unwelcome visitors did not identify themselves but had to be asked repeatedly before doing so. According to law they must identify themselves as police officers immediately.

'They came in with flashlights. It was scary.' Thundering on staircases, pounding on doors, they awakened the Oxleys in the adjoining faculty apartment by trying to break their door down with a fire extinguisher.

One man was assigned to stay in each room while others moved from room to room, conducting a thorough search. Beds were torn apart, posters and curtains ripped down, fireplaces inspected. 'They looked in places I've never looked, where people in this room before me could have left stuff.' They left many rooms in utter chaos: chairs

on unmade beds, posters in bathtubs, suitcases opened, tea and coffee spilt over the floor, windows damaged. 'They had a good time. They were hooting and laughing,' one student recalled. Another said, 'They were playing with us.' The police put on a Beatles album in one room. Larry Abrams reported they were 'fascinated by my interests.'

Dean Carl Selinger was called to the scene, where he was shown a blanket warrant for the entire building. Speaking to the crowd of students which had gathered outside, the Dean suggested harassing police would only worsen matters. He recalls the air of the crowd as 'calm.' Phil Oxley remembers it is 'tense and contemptuous.' He estimates there were between 75 and 100 students gathered, mostly from Robbins and Manor Annex, and later Ward Manor residents who had escaped despite police efforts to keep them in their rooms. The crowd chanted 'Pigs!' A phonograph blasted 'Gee, Officer Krupke.'

Arrested students were led from the Manor social room, clasping their hands above their heads in a gesture of bravado. Light from photographers' flash bulbs glinted off the handcuffs with which they were bound.

m. swordlow

IMPRESSIONS





Can Any Cop Be Honest?



THE CRISIS

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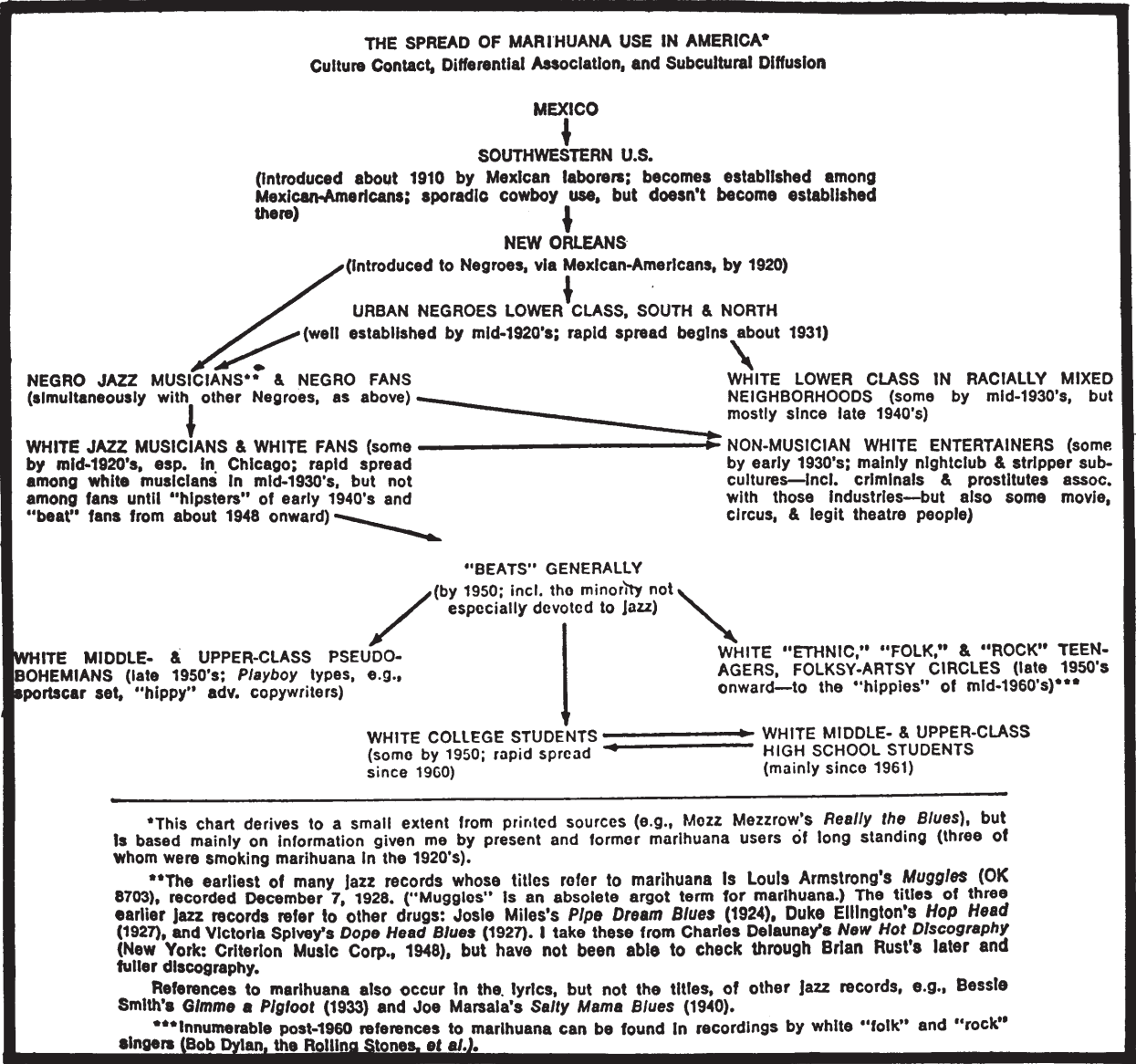


A far cry from good

Legitimized repression

Twisted thinking

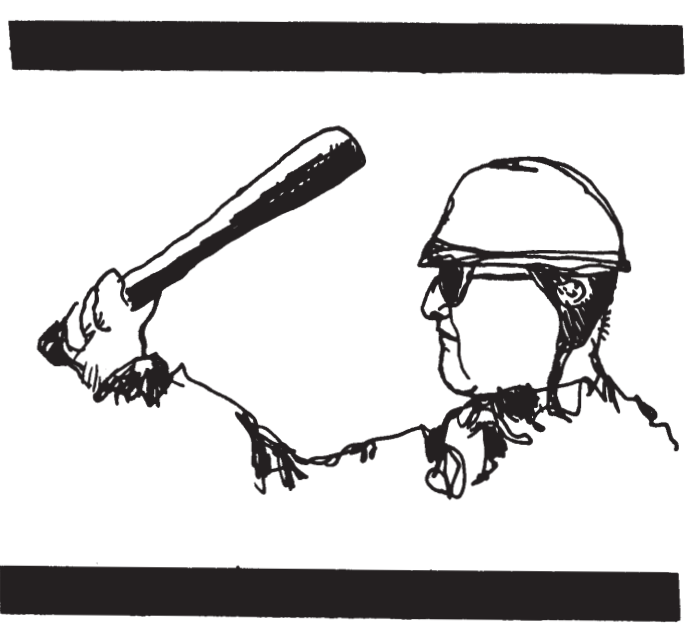
Undemocratic



PUBLIC SERVICE NOTICES & THINGS

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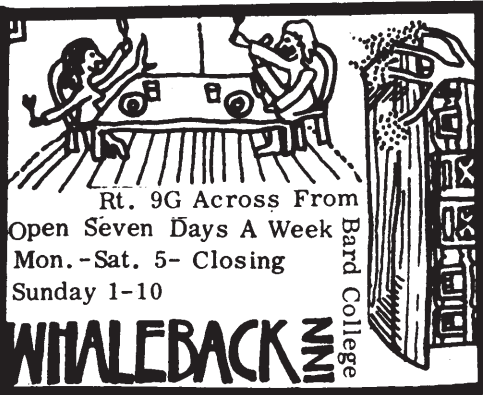
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